

What is claimed is:

1. A molded component, comprising:  
a molded member; and  
a protrusion printed on a surface of the molded  
5 member.
2. A molded component as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the protrusion includes a plurality of Braille dots.
3. A molded component as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the protrusion is transparent.
- 10 4. A molded component as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the protrusion is formed of normal-temperature curing resin.
5. A molded component as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
the protrusion is formed of photo-curing resin.
6. A molded component as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
15 the protrusion is provided on the surface of the molded  
member through a screen printing.
7. A molded component as claimed in claim 1, wherein  
a character is printed on the surface of the molded member.
8. A molded component as claimed in claim 7,  
20 wherein the character is printed on the surface of  
the molded member through a first screen printing by using a  
first screen having through-holes with a first size, and  
wherein the protrusion is provided on the surface of  
the molded member through a second screen printing by using  
25 a second screen having through-holes with a second size

greater than the first size.

9. A molded component as claimed in claim 7, wherein the protrusion is provided on top of the character.

10. A molded component as claimed in claim 1,  
5 wherein the molded member has a first surface roughness, the protrusion having a second surface roughness different from the first surface roughness.

11. A molded component as claimed in claim 10, wherein the surface of the molded member is a grain surface.

10 12. A molded component as claimed in claim 10, wherein the surface of the molded member is curved.

13. An operation panel, comprising:

a molded component including a molded member and a protrusion printed on a surface of the molded member; and  
15 an operation portion received by the molded member for receiving a user's manipulation.

14. An operation panel as claimed in claim 14, wherein the operation portion includes an operation switch received by the molded member at a location that enables the  
20 user's finger to touch both of the operation switch and the protrusion simultaneously.

15. An electronic device, comprising:

a housing;

an operation panel mounted to the housing, the  
25 operation panel including:

a molded component including a molded member  
and a protrusion printed on a surface of the molded member;  
and

an operation portion received by the molded  
5 member for receiving a user's manipulation; and

an electronic unit mounted in the housing and  
executing a predetermined electronic operation in response  
to the user's manipulation of the operation portion.

16. A method of producing a molded component,  
10 comprising:

printing a character on a surface of a molded member;  
and

printing a protrusion on the surface of the molded  
member, on which the character has already been printed.

15 17. A method as claimed in claim 16,

wherein the character printing step executes a first  
screen printing to print the character on the surface of the  
molded member by using a first screen having through-holes  
with a first size, and

20 wherein the protrusion printing step executes a  
second screen printing to print the protrusion on the  
surface of the molded member by using a second screen having  
through-holes with a second size greater than the first size.

18. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the  
25 surface of the molded member is a grain surface having an

upper-leveled portion and a lower-leveled portion, and

wherein the protrusion-printing step prints the protrusion on the surface of the molded member by using a plate film with its thickness greater than a distance  
5 between the upper-leveled and the lower-leveled portions.

19. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the surface of the molded member is curved, and

further comprising:

defining at least one first region on at least a part  
10 of the entire surface of the molded member, the character-printing step performing its character-printing operation onto each first region; and

defining a plurality of second regions on at least the part of the entire surface of the molded member, the  
15 protrusion-printing step performing its protrusion-printing operation onto each second region, the total number of the plurality of second regions being greater than the total number of the at least one first region.